

REMARKS

The Official Action of March 8, 2006, has been carefully reviewed. The claims in the application are now claims 1-15. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Acknowledgement by the PTO of the receipt of applicants' papers filed under Section 119 is noted.

Restriction has been required between what the PTO deems to be two (2) patentably distinct inventions. As the applicants must make an election, applicants hereby respectfully and provisionally elect Group I, now claims 1-6 and 13-15, directed to a board for gliding over snow, without traverse and without prejudice. Thus, applicants accept that the two inventions are patentably distinct from one another, i.e. each is *prima facie* non-obvious from the other.

The PTO is authorized to delete the non-elected claims, of course without prejudice to applicants' rights including those rights provided by Sections 121, 120 and 119, upon allowance of the elected subject matter.

Applicants now respectfully await the results of a first examination on the merits of the elected subject matter, now claims 1-6 and 13-15.

The Office Action indicated that the claimed subject matter is directed to a "snowboard", but this is too narrow a term. As indicated above, and as claimed, the present invention covers "a board for gliding over snow", and this includes an alpine ski, a snowboard, a monoski, a backcountry ski, a crosscountry ski, etc. (see for example the description at page 1, line 8-11 of applicants specification).

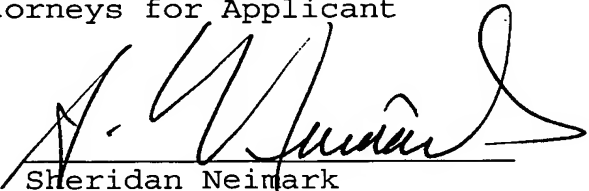
Applicants appreciate the Examiner's note of paragraph 3. The "in particular" and "preferably" clauses have been deleted, and what was previously the "preferably" clause of claim 4 has now been inserted as new claim 13. New claim 14 and 15 restore in part dependent claims cancelled without prejudice by the removal of improper multi-dependencies under U.S. practice.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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